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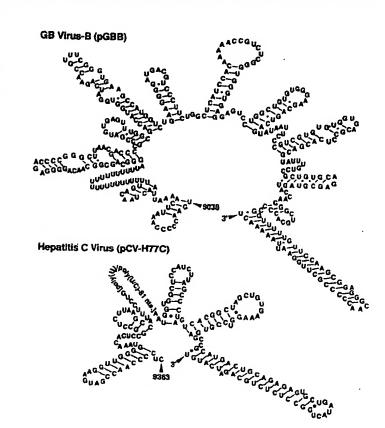
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(54) Title: INFECTIOUS cDNA CLONE OF GB VIRUS B AND USES THEREOF



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious GB virus B clone. The invention also relates to the use of the nucleic acid sequence of the infectious GB virus B clone to indirectly study the molecular properties of HCV, and in the production of HCV/GBV-B chimeras. The invention further relates to the use of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of GB virus B clone and the HCV/GBV-B chimeras in the development of vaccines and therapeutics for HCV.

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## Title of Invention

Infectious cDNA clone of GB Virus B and Uses Thereof

## Field of Invention

The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious GB virus B (GBV-B) clone. The invention also relates to the use of the nucleic acid sequence of the infectious GB virus B clone to study indirectly the molecular properties of hepatitis C virus (HCV), and in the production of HCV/GBV-B chimeras. The invention further relates to the use of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of the GB virus B clone and the HCV/GBV-B chimeras in the development of vaccines and therapeutics for HCV.

#### Background of Invention

Transmission studies of potential human hepatitis agents were first reported in 1967 (Deinhardt 20 1967). Four tamarins inoculated with acute phase sera from a surgeon with acute hepatitis (patient GB) developed hepatitis, as did most tamarins inoculated in serial passage studies. Subsequent studies indicated 25 that the etiological agent responsible for the development of hepatitis in these animals was not any of the known human hepatitis viruses (Purcell 1994). 1995, two related RNA viruses named GB virus-B (GBV-B) and GB virus A (GBV-A) were identified in acute phase 30 sera of a tamarin which developed hepatitis following inoculation with serum of the eleventh tamarin passage of the putative GB agent (Simons 1995a).

GBV-B infection of tamarins resulted in acute resolving hepatitis (Schlauder 1995, Buhk 1997). The

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natural host of GBV-B is still unknown as the virus has not been detected in uninoculated animals or in humans.

GBV-A, on the other hand, is an indigenous tamarin virus rather than a component of the original GB inoculum (Bukh 1997, Erker 1998). Experimental infection of tamarins with GBV-A did not produce hepatitis (Schlauder 1995). A human agent, GBV-C or hepatitis G virus, most closely related to GBV-A, was later identified (Simons 1995b, Linnen 1996). However, it is still not clear whether this virus actually causes hepatitis (Alter 1998, Bukh 1998a). Thus, of the known GB viruses, GBV-B may be the only true hepatitis virus.

Based on analysis of their genomic sequences, GBV-A, GBV-B and GBV-C were classified as members of the Flaviviridae family of viruses, and among the known viruses, GBV-B is the virus most closely related to hepatitis C virus (HCV) (Muerhoff 1995, Robertson 1998).

The GBV-B virus contains a positive-sense, single-stranded RNA genome of 9143 nucleotides (nts) (Simons 1995a, Muerhoff 1995). The viral genome of GBV-B consists of a 5' untranslated region (UTR), a single long open reading frame (ORF) and a 3' UTR. Based on known motifs, structural proteins were predicted to be encoded in the 5' portion of the ORF and nonstructural (NS) proteins in the 3' portion of the ORF (Muerhoff 1995). The hydropathy plots of the polyproteins of GBV-B and HCV are very similar even though the overall homology of the predicted polyproteins between GBV-B and HCV is only about 25-30% (Muerhoff 1995). The putative envelope proteins (E1 and E2) of GBV-B and HCV share common structural features, and significant homology was observed between the NS3 serine protease, the NS3 RNA

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helicase, and the NS5 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase regions of GBV-B and HCV (Muerhoff 1995). Furthermore, the function and substrate specificity of the GBV-B and HCV NS3 serine proteases are also similar (Scarselli The genomic structure and organization of GBV-B 5 and HCV share additional features of interest. First, colinear regions with significant sequence homology were identified in the 5' UTRs (Muerhoff 1995) and the predicted IRES structure of GBV-B is similar to that of 10 HCV (Lemon 1997). Second, both viruses begin the 3' UTR with a short sequence followed by a poly (U) stretch followed by additional nucleotides (50 nucleotides for GBV-B and 98 nucleotides for HCV). However, the 3' terminal sequence of HCV forms a stable stem-loop 15 structure (Kolykhalov 1996) whereas the published 3' terminal sequence of GBV-B does not.

To date, molecular studies of HCV are severely limited by the lack of an efficient cell culture system for the virus and by expense and limited availability of chimpanzees, the sole animal model for HCV.

Accordingly, a less expensive and more readily available animal than chimpanzees is necessary as an animal model for the study of HCV.

#### Summary of Invention

The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious GB virus B (GBV-B) clone. It is therefore an object of the invention to provide nucleic acid sequence which encodes an infectious GBV-B. Such nucleic acid sequence is referred to throughout the application as "infectious nucleic acid sequence".

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As significant structural homology exists between the genomes of GBV-B and HCV, the invention also relates to the use of infection of tamarins with the infectious nucleic acid sequence of GBV-B or with mutants of the infectious sequence to study indirectly the molecular properties of hepatitis C virus (HCV) or as a preliminary screen to identify agents which have antiviral activity against HCV.

The invention further relates to "chimeric nucleic acid sequences" consisting of portions of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of GBV-B and portions of the nucleic acid sequences of other viruses closely related to GBV-B such as HCV, GBV-C or other members of the Flaviviridae family which do not replicate in tamarins. In a preferred embodiment, the chimeric nucleic acid sequences consist of portions of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of GBV-B and portions of the nucleic acid sequence of HCV. The nucleic acid sequences taken from GBV-B and HCV can be open-reading frame sequences, and/or sequences from the 5'UTR and/or 3'UTR.

In one embodiment, GBV-B/HCV chimeras may be made in which 5' or 3' UTR sequences of the GBV-B infectious clone are replaced with the corresponding sequence from an HCV clone.

In another embodiment, GBV-B/HCV chimeras may

be constructed in which the structural or non-structural

regions of GBV-B are replaced by corresponding regions

of HCV. Thus, such a chimera would contain, for

example, the HCV structual region in a GBV-B "genomic

backbone". Of course, it is understood by one of skill

in the art that the construction of the above-described

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chimeric nucleic acid sequences may be reversed such that, for example, the GBV structural region may replace the structual region of an HCV genome to produce a chimera in which the GBV structural region is contained in an HCV backbone.

The invention further relates to the use of the chimeric nucleic acid sequences of the invention to study the functions of HCV genes, and for the development of vaccine and antiviral agents against HCV.

The invention also relates to the use of the infectious GBV-B nucleic acid sequence, the mutated GBV-B nucleic acid sequences or the chimeric sequences of the invention to identify cell lines capable of supporting the replication of GBV-B or the chimeras of the invention.

The present invention also relates to the polypeptides encoded by the nucleic acid sequences of the invention or fragments thereof.

The present invention further relates to the in vitro and in vivo production of GBV-B, mutant GBV-B viruses or chimeric GBV-B/HCV viruses from the nucleic acid sequences of the invention.

The invention also provides that the nucleic acid sequences and viruses of the invention be supplied in the form of a kit, alone or in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

## 30 <u>Brief Description Of Figures</u>

Figure 1 shows a flow diagram of GB virus transmission studies in two species of tamarins,

Saguinus mystax (SM) and Saguinus oedipus (SO). The animals infected with GBV-B (Simons 1995a) are boxed.

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Two serum pools (GB 8/93 and GB 2/94) were made from acutely infected animals. Both pools contained GBV-B, as well as GBV-A (Simons 1995) at a titer of 108 genome equivalent (GE)/ml. A 10% liver homogenate (CT 11/91) was made from a sacrificed tamarin. A number of S. mystax tamarins (SM 737, 749, 750, 760, 782, 795 and 799) and S. oedipus tamarins (SO 100) were naturally infected with GBV-A<sub>SM</sub> and GBV-A<sub>SO</sub>, respectively, prior to inoculation (Bukh 1997). Only two tamarins (SM 720 and 748), both GBV-Asm negative, became infected with GBV-A (Simons 1995) following inoculation. Tamarins SM42 and SM670 were not tested for GBV-A or GBV-A<sub>SM</sub>.

Figure 2 shows the course of GBV-B infection in tamarins (S. mystax) inoculated with a dilution series of the GB 2/94 pool. All animals were inoculated intravenously at week 0 with 1 ml of the indicated dilution. Results of qualitative RT-nested PCR for GBV-B in serum are shown at the top (filled circles, positive; empty circles, negative). Serum levels of isocitrate dehydrogenase (ICD in units/ml); shaded area) and the estimated log<sub>10</sub> GBV-B GE titer (vertical columns) were plotted against time.

25 Figure 3 shows alignment of the 3' UTR sequences of GBV-B. The sequence of the infectious clone of GBV-B (pGBB) is shown at the top (nts. 9038-9399). The other sequences shown are: pGBB5-1, a non-infectious clone of GBV-B; GBV-B, a prototype of GBV-B (Simons 30 1995); eleven "gb" clones obtained from CT 11/91 liver homogenate by 5' RACE on the minus-strand GBV-B RNA; four "29" clones obtained from GB 2/94 pool by RT-PCR across 5'-to-3'-end-ligated viral GBV-B RNA; and seven "GBB3" clones obtained from GB 2/94 pool by standard RT-PCR.

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With pGBB as the reference, nucleotide substitutions or insertions are shown as uppercase letters, identical nucleotides are shown as dots and nucleotide deletions are shown as dashes.

Figure 4 shows the predicted secondary structure of the 3' UTRs of GBV-B and HCV as determined by the program "mfold" (Genetics Computer Group).

Figure 5 shows the course of GBV-B infection in S. mystax tamarins transfected with RNA transcripts of 10 pGBB. Both animals were negative for GBV-Asm. At week 0 transcription mixtures were injected into tamarins by percutaneous intrahepatic injection guided by ultrasound. Results of qualitative RT-nested PCR for GBV-B in serum is shown at the top (filled circles, positive; empty circles, negative). Serum levels of isocitrate dehydrogenase (ICD in units/ml; shaded area) and the estimated log10 GBV-B GE titer (vertical columns) were plotted against time.

Figures 6A-6F show the nucleotide sequence of the infectious hepatitis C virus clone of genotype la strain H77C and Figures 6G-6H show the amino acid sequence encoded by the clone.

Figures 7A-7F show the nucleotide sequence of the infectious hepatitis C virus clone of genotype 1b strain HC-J4 and Figures 7G-H show the amino acid sequence encoded by the clone.

#### Description of The Invention

The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious GB virus B (GBV-B) clone. The nucleic acid sequence which comprises the genome of an infectious GBV-B virus is

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shown in SEQ ID NO:1 and is contained in the plasmid construct pGBB deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) on May 28, 1999 and having ATCC accession number PTA-152. The present invention relates to the identification of a 260 nucleotide sequence at the 3' end of the infectious GBV-B clone which is shown in Example 3 to be necessary for the development of the infectious clone.

Since GBV-B is the virus most closely related 10 to HCV, the present invention also relates to experimental infection of tamarins with the infectious GBV-B clone of the invention or with mutants of the infectious GBV clone to study indirectly the molecular properties of HCV or as a preliminary screen to identify 15 agents which have antiviral activity against HCV. For example, since the predicted internal ribosome entry site (IRES) structure in the 5'UTR of GBV-B is similar to that of HCV (Lemon 1997), the NS3 serine proteases of 20 GBV-B and HCV have been shown to share substrate specificity in vitro (Scarselli 1997), and the 3'UTRs of HCV (Yanagi 1999) and GBV-B (see Examples) have been shown to be critical for viral infectivity, mutagenesis of these regions in the GBV-B infectious clone may be 25 undertaken to examine IRES function, NS3 serine protease activity or the role of the 3'UTR in viral infectivity in vivo. Where such "mutations" are introduced into the GBV-B clone of the invention to create a "mutated" GBV-B 30 sequence, the mutations include, but are not limited to, point mutations, deletions and insertions. Of course, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the size of the insertions would be limited by the 35 ability of the resultant nucleic acid sequence to be

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properly packaged within the virion. Such mutations could be produced by techniques known to those of skill in the art such as site-directed mutagenesis, fusion PCR, and restriction digestion followed by religation.

Alternatively, given the significant structural homology that exists between the genomes of GBV and HCV, the infectious GBV-B clone may be used to screen for inhibitors of IRES function or viral enzyme activity (for example, NS3 helicase, NS3 protease, NS2-NS3 protease or NS5B RNA polymerase activity). Such inhibitors may be useful as antiviral agents to HCV since viral enzyme activity and IRES function are known to be critical for HCV replication.

The effect of such inhibitors on the IRES 15 function or viral activity of the GBV-B encoded by the infectious sequence of the invention may be measured by assays known to those of skill in the art to measure directly or indirectly viral replication or viral 20 pathogenicity. Such assays include, but are not limited to, the measurement of virus titer in serum or liver of an infected tamarin by PCR or the measurement of GBV-B viral protein expression in liver cells of an infected 25 tamarin by immunoflourescence or Western blot. course, it is understood that a comparison of results obtained for control tamarins (treated only with infectious nucleic acid sequence) with those obtained for treated tamarins (nucleic acid sequence and 30 antiviral agent) would indicate, the degree, if any, of antiviral activity of the candidate antiviral agent. Of course, one of ordinary skill in the art would readily understand that the tamarins can be treated with the 35 candidate antiviral agent either before or after

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exposure to the infectious nucleic acid sequence of the present invention.

In yet another embodiment, the invention relates to "chimeric nucleic acid sequences" which consist of portions of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of GBV-B and portions of nucleic acid sequences of viruses which are related to GBV-B such as HCV, GBV-C and other members of the Flaviviridae family which do not infect tamarins. In a preferred embodiment, chimeric nucleic acid sequences consist of portions of the infectious nucleic acid sequence of GBV-B and portions of nucleic acid sequences of hepatitis C viruses (HCV) of various genotypes or subtypes; preferably portions of nucleic acid sequence of infectious HCV clones of genotypes la (ATCC accession number PTA-157; Figures 6A-6F), 1b (ATCC accession number 209596; Figures 7A-7F) or 2a (ATCC accession number PTA-153; SEQ ID NO: 4). The nucleic acid sequences taken from GBV-B and HCV can be open-reading frame sequences, and/or sequences from the 5'UTR and/or The gene borders of the HCV genome, including nucleotide and amino acid locations, have been determined, for example, as depicted in Houghton, M. (1996), and the putative gene borders of the GBV-B are

Of course, it is understood that the production of GBV-B/HCV chimeras could include insertion of specific genes or regions of the infectious GBV-B clone into an HCV "genomic backbone" (where the HCV genomic backbone is preferably an infectious nucleic acid sequence of HCV genotypes 1a, 1b or 2a described above) or alternatively, could include insertion of

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shown in Table 1.

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specific genes (or portions thereof) or regions of an HCV genome into the GBV-B infectious clone of the invention. Of course, where HCV genes or regions are to be inserted into the GBV-B infectious clone, it is to be understood that the inserted HCV sequences may be unmodified or may be mutated in order to examine the effect of the mutation(s) on the function of the inserted HCV gene or region in the chimeric GBV-B-HCV

Such chimeras can readily be produced by methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art.

In one embodiment, GBV-B/HCV chimeras may be made in which 5' or 3' UTR sequences of the GBV-B infectious clone are replaced with the corresponding sequence from an HCV clone. For example, chimeras may be constructed in which the IRES sequence of the infectious GBV-B clone is replaced by the IRES sequence of HCV. Such chimeras can be used in identifying inhibitors of IRES activity which would be useful as antiviral agents, or could be used to examine HCV IRES function in vivo. Alternatively, mutations could be introduced into the HCV IRES contained in the GBV-B clone in order to examine the effect of the mutation(s) on IRES function in vivo.

Alternatively, GBV-B/HCV chimeras may be made in which the 3'UTR sequence of GBV-B is replaced by the 3'UTR sequence of HCV. As the 3' terminal stem-loop structure is believed to be important for initiation of RNA replication and has been shown to be critical for infectivity of HCV in vivo, such chimeras may be used for more detailed analysis of the function of the 3' UTR

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virus.

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sequence of HCV  $\underline{\text{in}}\ \underline{\text{vivo}}$  and for the testing of candidate antiviral agents.

In another embodiment, GBV-B/HCV chimeras may be constructed in which the structural or non-structural regions of GBV-B are replaced by corresponding regions of HCV. Such chimeras would be useful in identifying whether the inability of HCV to infect tamarins is due to the inability of HCV's structural region to bind the receptor necessary for infection of tamarins or to the absence of sequences in HCV's nonstructural regions which are necessary for replication in tamarins. For example, the ability to infect tamarins with GBV-B/HCV chimeras in which the non-structural region of GBV-B is replaced by the non-structural region of HCV would indicate that the structural genes of GBV-B are necessary for viral infection in tamarins, and that the inability of HCV to infect tamarins is likely due to its lack of receptors for HCV.

Alternatively, the ability to infect tamarins with GBV-B/HCV chimeras in which the structural region of GBV-B is replaced by the structural region of HCV would indicate that the non-structural genes of GBV-B are critical for viral infection in tamarins, and that the inability of HCV to infect tamarins is likely due to HCV's lack of nonstructural sequences which are necessary for replication in tamarins.

Of course, GBV-B-HCV chimeras may be constructed in which only a portion of the non-structural or structural regions of GBV-B are replaced by the corresponding portions of HCV sequences. For example, a chimera in which only one or two of the three structural genes (C, El and E2) of GBV-B are replaced by

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the corresponding HCV structural genes may be made. In one embodiment, nucleic acid sequences comprising the E1 and E2 genes of GBV-B may be replaced by the sequences comprising the HCV E1 and E2 genes. In another embodiment, nucleic acid sequence comprising either the E1 or E2 gene of GBV-B is replaced by sequence encoding either the HCV E1 or E2 gene.

Alternatively, only a fragment of a GBV-B structural gene in the infectious GBV clone may be replaced with the corresponding HCV gene fragments. For example, the amino terminal of the GBV-B E1 gene may be replaced by the corresponding portion of an HCV E1 gene or an amino terminal portion of the GBV-B E2 gene may be replaced by an amino terminal portion of HCV E2 gene tht containing the HVR1 region. As the structural genes of HCV are believed to be important for neutralization, chimeras containing an HCV structural gene(s) or fragment(s) thereof can be used to develop vaccines against HCV.

In yet another embodiment, chimeras in which individual non-structural genes of GBV-B, such as NS3 RNA helicase, NS3 protease, or the NS5B RNA-dependent RNA polymerase are replaced by the corresponding non-structural genes of HCV may be constructed. Such chimeras would, for example, be useful in identifying inhibitors of viral enzyme activity which would be useful as antiviral agents. Of course, it is understood that in order to construct chimeras in which the polyprotein cleavage sites of the GBV-B remain intact, it may be desirable to replace only a fragment of a nonstructural gene of GBV-B with the corresponding HCV gene fragment.

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The present invention also relates to polypeptides encoded by the nucleic acid sequences of the invention or fragments thereof. In one embodiment, said polypeptide or polypeptides may be fully or partially purified from viruses produced by cells transfected with the nucleic acid sequences of the invention. In another embodiment, the polypeptide or polypeptides may be produced recombinantly from a fragment of the nucleic acid sequences of the invention. In yet another embodiment, the polypeptides may be chemically synthesized.

The present invention further relates to the in vitro and in vivo production of GBV-B, mutated GBV-B or chimeric GBV-B/HCV viruses from the nucleic acid sequences of the invention.

In one embodiment, the sequences of the invention can be inserted into an expression vector that functions in eukaryotic cells. Eukaryotic expression vectors suitable for producing high efficiency gene transfer in vivo are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art and include, but are not limited to, plasmids, vaccinia viruses, retroviruses, adenoviruses and adeno-associated viruses.

In another embodiment, the sequences contained in the recombinant expression vector can be transcribed in vitro by methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art in order to produce RNA transcripts which encode the GBV-B of the invention. The GBV-B of the invention may then be produced by transfecting cells by methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art with either the in vitro transcription mixture containing the RNA

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transcripts or with the recombinant expression vectors containing the nucleic acid sequences described herein.

In assaying the ability of the mutated GBV-B sequences or of the chimeric sequences of the invention to infect tamarins, the virulence phenotype of the virus produced by transfection of tamarins with the sequences of the invention can be monitored by methods known in the art such as measurement of liver enzyme levels (alanine aminotransferase (ALT) or isocitrate dehydrogenase (ICD)) or by histopathology of liver biopsies.

The present invention also relates to the use of the infectious GBV-B sequence, the mutated GBV-B nucleic acid sequences or the chimeric sequences of the invention to identify cell lines capable of supporting the replication of GBV-B or the chimeras of the invention.

Transfection of tissue culture cells with the nucleic acid sequences of the invention may be done by methods of transfection known in the art such as electroporation, precipitation with DEAE-Dextran or calcium phosphate, or incorporation into liposomes.

In one such embodiment, the method comprises the growing of animal cells <u>in vitro</u> and transfecting the cells with the nucleic acid of the invention, then determining if the cells show indicia of GBV-B or HCV infection. Such indicia include the detection of viral antigens in the cell, for example, by immunofluorescence procedures well known in the art; the detection of viral polypeptides by Western blotting using antibodies specific therefor; and the detection of newly transcribed viral RNA within the cells via methods such

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as RT-PCR. The presence of live, infectious virus particles following such tests may also be shown by injection of cell culture medium or cell lysates into healthy, susceptible animals, with subsequent exhibition of the signs and symptoms of GBV-B infection.

Suitable cells or cell lines for culturing GBV-B or the chimeric GBV-B-HCV include, but are not limited to, lymphocyte and hepatocyte cell lines known in the art.

Alternatively, primary hepatocytes can be cultured, and then infected; or, the hepatocyte cultures could be derived from the livers of infected tamarins. In addition, various immortalization methods known to those of ordinary skill in the art can be used to obtain cell-lines derived from hepatocyte cultures. For example, primary hepatocyte cultures may be fused to a variety of cells to maintain stability.

The invention also provides that the nucleic acid sequences and viruses of the invention be supplied in the form of a kit, alone or in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

All scientific publication and/or patents cited herein are specifically incorporated by reference. The following examples illustrate various aspects of the invention but are in no way intended to limit the scope thereof.

**EXAMPLES** 

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## Materials and Methods

Source of GB virus B

Two tamarin pools VR-806, (American Type

Culture Collection) and H205, were used for experimental

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transmission of the GB virus agents to tamarins species Saguinus mystax and Saguinus oedipus.

Amplification, cloning and sequence analysis of GBV-B

Viral RNA was extracted from aliquots of the

GB 2/94 serum pool or CT 11/91 liver homogenate with the

TRIzol system (GIBCO/BRL). Primers used in cDNA

synthesis and PCR amplification were based on the

genomic sequence of GBV-B published by Simons et al

(Simons 1995) shown in SEQ ID NO:3. Long RT-PCR was

performed using Superscript II reverse transcriptase

(GIBCO/BRL) and the Advantage cDNA polymerase mix

(Clontech) as described previously (Tellier 1996). Four

subgenomic regions of GBV-B covering the entire

published sequence (Simons 1995) were amplified from

serum and the PCR products were purified and cloned into

pGEM-9Zf(-) (Promega) or pCR2.1 vector (Invitrogen)

using standard procedures.

The 5' terminus of GBV-B was amplified from serum by using the rapid amplification of cDNA ends (RACE) with dC or dA tailing (GIBCO/BRL) and GBV-B specific antisense primers. Two different approaches were used to determine the 3' terminal sequence of GBV-B. In one approach, GBV-B RNA extracted from serum was circularized with T4 RNA ligase (Promega) and the 5'-to-3'-end-ligated viral RNA was amplified in RT-PCR using specific GBV-B primers. In the second approach, the 5' end of the negative strand GBV-B RNA extracted from the liver homogenate was amplified using the 5' RACE with dC tailing and GBV-B specific sense primers. The PCR products were cloned directly into pCR2.1-TOPO by using the TOPO TA Cloning Kit (Invitrogen).

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The consensus sequence of GBV-B was determined by direct sequencing of PCR products (nucleotides 1-9078 and nucleotides 9130-9359) and by sequence analysis of the clones (nucleotides 1-7135 and nucleotides 7151-9399). Nucleotide positions correspond to those of the infectious clone (pGBB). Analyses of genomic sequences were performed with GeneWorks (Oxford Molecular Group) (Bukh 1995). To determine whether the GenBank data base contained sequences with homology to the GBV-B 3' UTR sequence identified in the present invention, a "Blast" search was performed. The predicted secondary structure of the GBV-B and HCV 3' UTR sequences were determined by the program "mfold" (Genetics Computer Group).

15 Construction of consensus cDNA clones of GBV-B First, clone pGBB5-1, a consensus clone of GBV-B 2/94 containing the 3' terminus of GBV-B as published by Simons et al was constructed (Simons 1995a). The core sequence of the T7 promoter, a 5' 20 guanosine residue and the sequence of GBV-B (9139 nucleotides) were cloned into pGEM-9Zf(-) vector using NotI/SacI sites. A BamHI site was included at the GBV-B 3' terminus. Digested fragments containing the 25 consensus sequence were purified from subclones and ligated using convenient sites. Next, a second consensus clone of GBV-B, clone pGBB, was constructed by inserting the additional 3' terminal sequence, amplified by PCR from one of the clones obtained by the RACE 30 procedure described above, into pGBB5-1 using XmaI (at position 9114) and BamHI sites. A XhoI site was inserted following the GBV-B 3' terminus. DH5-alpha competent cells (GIBCO BRL) were transformed and 35 selected on LB agar plates containing 100 µg/ml

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ampicillin (SIGMA) and amplified in LB liquid cultures at 30°C for 18-20 hrs (Yanagi 1997). Each cDNA clone was re-transformed to select a single clone, and large-scale preparation of plasmid DNA was performed with a QIAGEN plasmid Maxi kit as described previously (Yanaqi 1997). Each clone was genetically stable since the digestion pattern was as expected following retransformation and the complete sequence was the expected one.

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Intrahepatic transfection of tamarins with transcribed GBV-B RNA

In 100 µl reactions, RNA was transcribed in vitro with T7 RNA polymerase (Promega) from 10 μg of 15 linearized template plasmid. The plasmid pGBB5-1 was linearized with BamHI (Promega) and the plasmid pGBB was linearized with XhoI (Promega). The integrity of the RNA was checked by electrophoresis through agarose gel stained with ethidium bromide. Each transcription 20 mixture was diluted with 400 µl of ice-cold phosphate-buffered saline without calcium or magnesium (SIGMA) and then immediately frozen on dry ice and stored at -80°C. Within 24 hours of synthesis, two transcription mixtures were injected into each tamarin by percutaneous intrahepatic injection guided by ultrasound (Emerson, 1992; Yanaqi 1998, 1999). If the tamarin did not become infected, the same transfection was repeated once. All transfected animals were negative for GBV-A<sub>SM</sub> as determined by the protocol described previously (Bukh 1997a).

Monitoring of experimental course in tamarins

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Serum samples were collected weekly from the tamarins and monitored for liver enzyme levels [alanine aminotransferase (ALT), gamma-glutamyltranspeptidase (GGT), and isocitrate dehydrogenase (ICD)] by standard methods and for GBV-B RNA by a specific reverse 5 transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) assay. Total RNA was extracted from 100 µl of serum using the TRIzol reagent. The RNA pellet was resuspended in 10 mM dithiothreitol (DTT) containing 5% (vol/vol) of RNasin 10 (20-40  $u/\mu l$ ) (Promega). The RT-nested PCR was performed with primers from the 5' UTR of GBV-B (external primer pair: 5'-CCT AGC AGG GCG TGG GGG ATT TCC-3' and 5'-AGG TCT GCG TCC TTG GTA GTG ACC-3'; internal primer pair: 15 5'-GGA TTT CCC CTG CCC GTC TG-3' and 5'-CCC CGG TCT TCC CTA CAG TG-3'). The reverse transcription was performed with avian myeloblastosis virus reverse transcriptase (Promega) and the external anti-sense primer and nested PCR was performed with AmpliTaq DNA polymerase or 20 AmpliTaq Gold DNA polymerase (Perkin Elmer) as described previously (Bukh 1998a). Specificity was confirmed by sequence analysis of selected DNA products. Each set of experiments included a positive control sample (a 10<sup>-6</sup> 25 dilution of GB 8/93, estimated titer 100 genome equivalent (GE)) and appropriate negative control samples. The genome equivalent (GE) titer of GBV-B in positive samples was determined by RT-nested PCR on 10-fold serial dilutions of the extracted RNA (Bukh 30 One GE was defined as the number of GBV-B genomes present in the highest dilution positive in RTnested PCR. The sensitivity of this RT-nested PCR assay for GBV-B was equivalent to that of our RT-nested PCR 35 assay for HCV (Bukh 1998b), for example, conserved NS3

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primers which had the same sensitivity for GBV-B as the 5' UTR primers could detect HCV at optimal sensitivity in samples with known HCV genome titer. Testing for GBV-A and GBV-A variants was performed by RT-nested PCR assays as described previously (Bukh 1997a).

The consensus sequence of the complete ORF was determined by direct sequencing of overlapping PCR products obtained by long RT-nested PCR on serum from one of the tamarins infected with RNA transcripts as previously described (Yanagi 1997).

## Example 1

## Transmission of GB Agent in Tamarins

To generate virus pools of the GB agent, 15 tamarins were inoculated intravenously with pooled sera of the eleventh tamarin passage of this agent (Fig. 1). Acute phase sera from a S. mystax tamarin which developed hepatitis were pooled (GB 8/93) and inoculated into additional S. mystax tamarins to generate a second 20 pool of acute phase serum (GB 2/94). Both serum pools contained approximately 108 GE/ml of GBV-B and GBV-A. A 10% liver homogenate (CT 11/91) was prepared from a S. oedipus tamarin which developed hepatitis following 25 inoculation with the twelfth passage of the GB agent. The titer of GBV-B in the liver homogenate was approximately 10<sup>7</sup> GE/ml. The GB 2/94 serum and CT 11/91 liver samples were used as GBV-B cloning sources in the 30 present study.

Inoculation of eight S. mystax tamarins with ten-fold serial dilutions of the GB 2/94 pool demonstrated that its infectivity titer of GBV-B was  $10^8$  tamarin 50% infectious doses (TID<sub>50</sub>) (Fig. 2). The five

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GBV-B infected tamarins all developed acute resolving hepatitis characterized by early appearance of viremia (weeks 1 or 2 p.i.), peak viral titers of  $10^7-10^8$  GE/ml and clearance of viremia after 9-16 weeks (Fig. 2). Two of these tamarins (S. mystax 769 and 777) were infected only with GBV-B and were negative for GBV-A and GBV-A<sub>SM</sub>, whereas the other three tamarins were infected with both GBV-B and GBV-Asm. A S. mystax tamarin inoculated with the liver homogenate also developed acute resolving hepatitis with peak GBV-B titers of 10° GE/ml and clearance of viremia after 11 weeks. Likewise, four S. mystax tamarins inoculated with dilutions of the GB 8/93 pool developed acute resolving hepatitis with clearance of the GBV-B virus after 11-26 weeks. Thus, GBV-B infection in S. mystax tamarins is characterized by acute hepatitis, early appearance of viremia, high peak viral titers and viral clearance.

#### Example 2

## Novel 3' Terminal Sequence of GBV-B

The consensus sequence of the complete 5' UTR of GBV-B (nucleotides 1-445) was deduced from 13 clones containing nucleotides 1-283 and 3 clones containing nucleotides 31-445. In addition, the entire 5' UTR sequence was determined by direct sequencing of the amplicons. The sequences of the various clones were highly conserved and the consensus 5' UTR sequence of GBV-B from this pool was identical to that of the previously published sequence for GBV-B (Simons 1995a). It is noteworthy that 13 of 15 clones analyzed from the rapid amplification of cDNA ends (RACE) procedure contained the published GBV-B 5' terminus (A residue)

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and that the same 5' terminus was obtained whether the 5' RACE was performed with dC or dA tailing.

The consensus sequence of the ORF (nucleotides 446-9037) was determined by direct sequencing of PCR products obtained using long RT-PCR (Yanagi 1997). In addition, 3 clones containing nts. 446-7135 (one of these clones had a deletion of nts. 3036-3636), 2 clones containing nts. 2019-3373, 5 clones containing nts. 7151-8261 and 7 clones containing nts. 7521-9037 were analyzed. The sequences of GBV-B clones in this pool were very homogeneous. Evidence of micro-heterogeneity was found at only 70 (0.8%) nucleotide and 36 (1.3%) amino acid positions, scattered throughout the ORF. proportion of amino acid positions with heterogeneity ranged from 0.5-3.2% in different putative gene regions (lowest in NS3 and NS5B; highest in E2 and NS2). GBV-B ORF sequence differed from the published sequence of GBV-B (Simons 1995) at 34 (0.4%) nucleotide and 12 (0.4%) deduced amino acid positions, respectively (Table

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Table 1

Nucleotide and amino acid differences among GBV-B (Simons 1995a), the consensus sequence of GBV-B recovered from a virus pool used as the cloning source (GBV-B, 2/94) and the infectious clone of GBV-B (pGBB).

5	Genomic Region*	Position Nucleotide nt [aa]				Amino Acid		
	<del></del>		<del></del>	GBV-B			GBV-B	
			GBV-B	2/94	pGBB	GBV-B	2/94	PGBB
	5' UTR (1-445)							
	C (446-913)							
	E1 (914-1489)	1030	С	T	Ŧ			
	E2 (1490-2641)	1498	Ŧ	C (t)	ć			
	52 (1130 2011)	1628 [395]		A (g)	Ā	v	I (V)	I
	1	2552 [703]	G	A (g)	Ä	D	N (D)	N
10		2562, 2563	C,A	A,C	A,C	P	н (2)	н
10		[706]	٠,٨	Α, C	7.0	•	••	••
		2566	T	T	T			
		2625 [727]		Ť	Ť	A	v	v
	NS2 (2642-3385)	2647	č	T (c)	Ť		•	•
	1102 (2012 3003)	2816 [791]		T	Ŧ	L	F	F
		2855 [804]	Ä	Ğ	Ğ	Ŧ	À	Ä
		3235	Ä	Ğ	G	-		•••
	NS3 (3386-5125)	3475**	Ĉ	C (t)	Ť.			
	1.55 (5566 5522)	3760	č	T (c)	Ť			
	į	4114	č	T (C)	Ť			
15		4117	č	Ā	Ā			
		4177	Ť	Ċ	ċ			
	l .	4615	ċ	Ť	T			
	NS4A (5126-5290)		-	-	-			
	NS4B (5291-6034)	5329	c	T	T			
		5332	Ť	ċ	ċ			
		5350	Ä	č	č			
		5455	Ċ	T (c)	Ť			
	NS5A (6035-7267)	6413	T	A (t)	Ā	L	M (L)	м
20		[1990]	_	(.,		_	(=/	
		6577	G	T	т			
	l l	6690	Ţ	C (t)	ċ	I	T(I)	T
	İ	[2082]	•	C (C)	•	-	,	-
	1	6965	T	C (t)	С	s	P (S)	P
		[2174]	•	C (C)	_	•	1 (5,	•
		7015	А	G (a)	G			
	ľ	7128	Ĝ	A (a)	A	G	E	E
		(2228)	•	^	^	J	_	-
	1	7138**	A	A	G			
	İ	7142	Ä	G	G	Ť	A	A
25	1	[2233]	^	G	G	•	^	^
	NS5B (7268-9037)	7282	т	C (t)	С			
	N33B (/288-903/)	7849	ç	A (L)	A			
		7852	c	T	Ť			
			G			ν	• /**	
	i	8942	G	A (g)	A	v	I (V)	1
	1	(2981)	_	_	_			
		8971	T	C	C			
		9026	c	T (c)	T			
	3' UTR (9038-	9067	T	С	c			
30	9399)							
		Poly(U)			23 nts			
	1	9134	Deletion		С			
	*Nucleotide positi	9141-9399	ND		259 nts			

<sup>\*</sup>Nucleotide positions corresponding to pGBB. Putative gene borders defined as suggested by homology with HCV (Muerhoff 1995). No homology was observed at the NS2-NS3 junction.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Positions that differ between the cloning source (GBV-B 2/94) and the infectious clone of GBV-B (pGBB). The change introduced into pGBB at position 7138 introduced an artificial SalI site. nd: Not determined. Nucleotides and amino acids shown in parenthesis were found as a minor species in the cloning source (GBV-B, 2/94

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The sequence for the 3' UTR is shown in Figure 3. Additional 3' UTR sequence was initially identified by performing RT-PCR across 5'-to-3'-end-ligated viral RNA extracted from serum. In all 4 clones with GBV-B sequences, the 5' UTR was truncated compared to the 5 published sequence (simon 1995a). However, whereas one clone (29c) had the exact 3' terminus previously published by Simons et al. (Simons 1995a), the three other clones (29a, 29b, 29d) had 150 additional terminal 10 nucleotides. Compared with the published sequence, all four clones had a single nucleotide insertion (C residue) at position 9134. Next, RACE using dC-tailing only was performed on the 5' end of the negative-strand RNA extracted from the liver homogenate. All 11 clones 15 analyzed had additional sequences at the 3' terminus. Compared with the published GBV-B sequence, two clones (gb6, gb23) had 259 additional nucleotides, 8 clones (qb9, qb19, qb20, qb21, qb24, qb25, qb30, qb35) had 236 20 additional nucleotides and 1 clone (gb8) had 232 additional nucleotides. Moreover, all of these clones had the insertion at position 9134. The 3' UTR sequences among the various clones were highly conserved 25 (Fig. 3). To demonstrate that the terminal 22 nucleotides found only in clones gb6 and gb23 existed in circulating viruses, RT-nested PCR was performed on 10fold serially diluted RNA extracted from the serum pool GB 2/94 using an RT and external antisense primer 30 deduced from this sequence. GBV-B RNA was detected at a dilution of 10<sup>-7</sup> and the sequence of the amplicon was identical to the sequence recovered from the liver homogenate. Thus, the 3' UTR of GBV-B consists of a 35 short sequence of 30 nucleotides followed by a 11-24

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nucleotide-long poly (U) tract (single C residues were observed in GBV-B from the liver homogenate) and a 3' terminal sequence of at least 309 nucleotides. The new GBV-B 3' UTR sequence did not have significant homology to any of the sequences deposited in the GenBank database. A prediction of the secondary structure of the 3' UTR sequence is shown in Figure 4. The most notable feature of the secondary structure is a highly stable stem-loop structure at the very 3' end consisting of 47 nucleotides.

#### Example 3

## The pGBB Clone of GBV-B is Infectious in vivo

The infectivity of RNA transcripts from the 15 consensus clone pGBB5-1 which encompassed only the published GBV-B sequence (Simons 1995) was first tested. Within the GBV-B sequence there were no deduced amino acid differences and only 2 nucleotide differences (at 20 nucleotide positions 3475 and 7138) between the consensus sequence of the cloning source (GBV-B 2/94) and the sequence of pGBB5-1 clone. In addition, the 3' UTR of pGBB5-1 had a deletion at nucleotide position 9134 and was missing the 3' terminal 259 nucleotides 25 (Fig. 3). Prior to transcription, the pGBB5-1 clone was linearized at the BamHI site with digestion at the exact GBV-B 3' terminus. The RNA transcripts from pGGB5-1 were injected into the liver of two tamarins (S. mystax 30 797 and 815). GBV-B RNA was not detected in weekly serum samples collected during 17 weeks of follow-up. As the susceptibility of these two tamarins to GBV-B was subsequently demonstrated by experimental infection 35 using a GBV-B virus pool, the consensus clone pGBB5-1

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which lacks the 3' terminal sequence of GBV-B is thus not infectious in vivo.

Next, the infectivity of RNA transcripts from the full-length consensus GBV-B cDNA clone pGBB was The pGBB clone was identical to the pGBB5-1 clone except in the 3' UTR. Thus, in addition to a 5' UTR of 445 nucleotides, an ORF of 8592 nucleotides encoding 2864 amino acids and a 3' UTR of 103 nucleotides, the pGBB clone also contains an additional 259 nucleotides in its 3' UTR. pGBB was linearized at the XhoI site which added an additional C residue at the 3' end of the transcribed GBV-B RNA. When RNA transcripts from the pGBB clone were injected into the liver of two tamarins (S. mystax 816 and 817), both tamarins became infected with GBV-B with viremia at week 1 p.i. and peak viral titers of 108 GE/ml (Fig. 5). consensus sequence of PCR products of the complete ORF, amplified from serum obtained during week 2 p.i. from one tamarin (S. mystax 817), was identical to the sequence of pGBB, including at the two positions which differed from the consensus sequence of the cloning source and from the published sequence of GBV-B (Table 1). By performing RT-PCR as desired above, it was demonstrated that the very 3' terminal GBV-B sequence of pGBB existed in the circulating viruses in this tamarin. Within two weeks of the transfection both tamarins developed hepatitis with dramatically elevated liver enzyme levels (Fig. 5). Thus, the pGBB clone is infectious in vivo whereas the clone pGBB5-1 which lacks the last 259 nucleotides was not.

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PCT/US00/15293

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes GB virus-B, said molecule capable of expressing said virus when transfected into cells.
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  2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1,
  wherein said molecule encodes the amino acid sequence of
  SEQ ID NO:2.
- 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
  - 4. A DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.
- 5. A DNA construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3.
  - 6. An RNA transcript of the DNA construct of claims 4 or 5.
- 7. A cell transfected with the DNA construct of claims 4 or 5.
  - 8. A cell transfected with RNA transcripts of claim 6.
- 9. A GB virus-B polypeptide produced by the cell of claim 7.
- 10. A GB virus-B polypeptide produced by the cell of claim 8.
  - $\hspace{1cm}$  11. A GB virus-B produced by the cell of claim 7.
- 12. A GB virus-B produced by the cell of claim 8.

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13. A GB virus-B whose genome comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

- 14. A GB virus-B whose genome comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3.
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  15. A method for producing a GB virus-B comprising transfecting a host cell with the DNA construct of claims 4 or 5.
- 16. A method for producing a GB virus-B comprising transfecting a host cell with the RNA transcript of claim 6.
  - 17. A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 suspended in a suitable amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.
  - 18. A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 3 suspended in a suitable amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.
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  19. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a chimeric virus genome, said genome being a GB virus-B genome according to claim 1 in which a 3' or 5' UTR sequence of the genome is replaced by a corresponding region of the 3' or 5' UTR sequence of a hepatitis C virus genome.
- 20. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 19,
  wherein a 3' UTR sequence of the genome of a GB virus-B
  is replaced by a corresponding 3' UTR sequence of a
  hepatitis C virus genome.
  - 21. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein the 3' UTR sequence is the 3' UTR terminal stem loop sequence.

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- 22. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 19, wherein a 5' UTR sequence of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by a corresponding 5' UTR sequence of a hepatitis C virus genome.
- 23. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 22, wherein the 5' UTR sequence is the IRES sequence.
  - 24. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a chimeric virus genome, said genome being a GB virus-B genome according to claim 1 in which the non-structural region of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by the non-structural region of a hepatitis C virus genome.
- 25. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 24, wherein at least one gene from the non-structural region of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by the corresponding gene from the non-structural region of a hepatitis C virus genome.
  - 26. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the gene from the non-structural region is selected from the group consisting of NS3 protease, NS3 RNA helicase, or NS5B RNA polymerase.
  - 27. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a chimeric virus genome, said genome being a GB virus-B genome according to claim 1 in which the structural region of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by the structural region of a hepatitis C virus genome.
    - 28. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 27, wherein at least one gene from the structural region of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by the

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corresponding gene from the structural region of a hepatitis C virus genome.

- 29. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 28, wherein the gene from the structural region is selected from the group consisting of E1, E2 or C.
- 30. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 28, wherein the E1 and E2 genes from the structural region of the genome of a GB virus-B have been replaced by the E1 and E2 genes of a hepatitis C virus genome.
- 31. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 28, wherein the E1 gene from the structural region of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by the E1 gene of a hepatitis C virus genome.
- 32. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 28, wherein the E2 gene from the structural regions of the genome of a GB virus-B has been replaced by the E2 gene of a hepatitis C virus genome.
- 33. A DNA construct comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claims 19, 24 or 27.
- 34. An RNA transcript of the DNA construct of claim 33.
  - 35. A virus whose genome comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claims 19, 24 or 27.
- 36. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a chimeric virus genome, said genome being a hepatitis C virus genome in which a 3' or 5' UTR sequence of the genome is replaced by a corresponding region of the 3' or 5' UTR sequence of a GB virus-B genome according to claim 1.

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- 37. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a chimeric virus genome, said genome being a hepatitis C virus genome in which the non-structural region of the genome has been replaced by the non-structural region of a GB virus-B genome according to claim 1.
- 38. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a chimeric virus genome, said genome being a hepatitis C virus genome in which the structural region of the genome has been replaced by the structural region of a GB virus-B genome according to claim 1.
- 39. A polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claims 19, 24 or 27.
- 15 40. A polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claims 36, 37 or 38.

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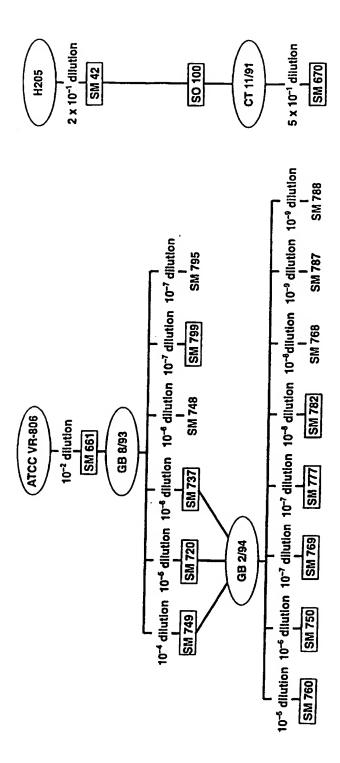
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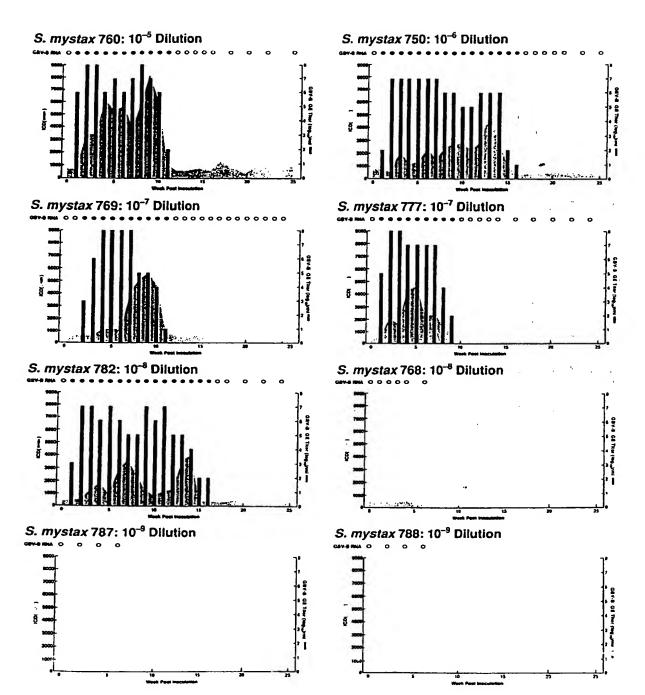
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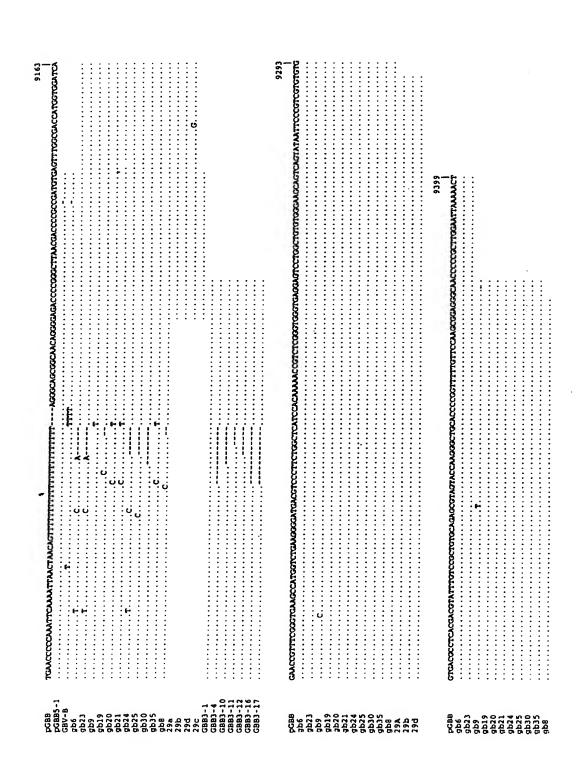
FIG. 1



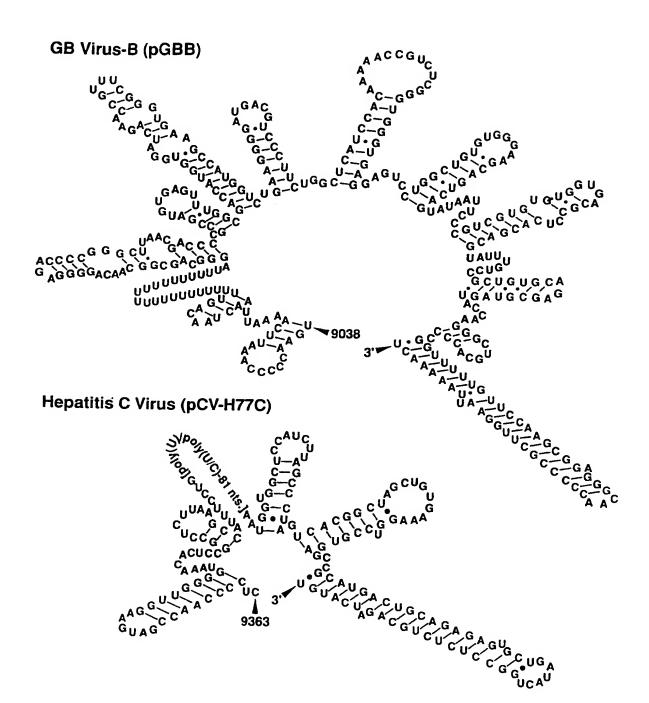
## FIG. 2





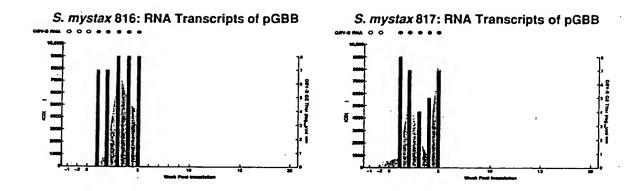


### FIG. 4



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**FIG. 5** 



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CKLPTTQLRR	HIDLLVGSAT	LCSALYVGDL	CGSVFLVGQL	FIFSPRRHWT	300
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			ANDIDVFVLN		550
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PQLPGIPFVS	<b>CORGYRGVWR</b>	<b>GDGIMHIRCH</b>	<b>CCAETICHVK</b>	NGIMRIVGPR	2050
TORNMASGIF	PINAYTIGPC	TPLPAPNYKF	ALWRVSAEEY	VEIRRVGDFH	2100
AASCALLINT	KCPCQIPSPE	FFTELDGVRL	HRFAPPCKPL	LREEVSFRVG	2150
LHEYPVGSQL	PCEPEPDVAV	LITSMLIDPSH	TTAEAACRRL	ARGSPPSMAS	2200
SSASQLSAPS	LKATCIANHD	SPDAELIEAN	LLWRQEMEGN	ITRVESENKV ·	2250
VILDSFDPLV	AEEDEREVSV	PAEILRKSRR	FARALPWAR	PDYNPPLVET	2300
WKKPDYEPPV	VHGCPLPPPR	SPPVPPPRKK	RIVVLIESTL	STALAFLATK	2350
SFGSSSTSGI	TGINITISSE	PAPSGCPPDS	DVESYSSMPP	LEGEFGDPDL	2400
SDGSWSTVSS	CADITEDVVCC	SMSYSWIGAL	VTPCAAEEQK	LPINALSNSL	2450
LRHHNLVYST	TSRSACQRQK	KVIFDRLQVL	DSHYQDVLKE	VKAAASKVKA	2500
NLLSVEEACS	LTPPHSAKSK	FGYGAKDVRC	HARKAVAHIN	SWKDLLEDS	2550
VIPIDITIMA	KNEVFCVQPE	KGGRKPARLI	VFPDLGVRVC	EKMALYDVVS	2600
KLPLAVMGSS	YGFQYSPGQR	VEFLVQAWKS	KKTPMGFSYD	TRCFDSIVIE	2650
SDIRTEEALY	QCCDLDPQAR	VAIKSLITERL	YVGGPLINSR	GENOGYRRCR:	2700
ASGVLITTSCG	NTLTCYTKAR	AACRAAGLQD	CIMLVCGDDL	VVICESAGVQ	2750
EDAASLRAFT	EAMIRYSAPP	GDPPQPEYDL	ELITSCSSW	SVAHDGAGKR :	2800
VYYLTRDPTT	PLARAAWETA	RHITPVNSWLG	NIIMFAPILW	ARMILMIHEF	2850
SVLIARDQLE	QALNCETYGA	CYSIEPLDLP	PIIQRLHGLS	AFSLHSYSPG	2900
EINRVAACLR	KLGVPPLRAW	RHRARSVRAR	LLSROGRAAI	CCKYLFNWAV	2950
RIKLKLTPIA	AAGRLDLSGW	FTAGYSGGDI	YHSVSHARPR	WFWFCLLLLA	3000
AGVGTYLLPN :	R				3011

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10	20	30	40	. 50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
GCAGCCC	TGATGGGGGC	GACACTOCAC	CATGAATCAC	TCCCCIGIGA	50
<b>GGAACTACTG</b>	TCTTCACGCA	GAAAGCCICT	AGCCATGGCG	TIAGIATGAG	100
TIGHTOGHIGCAG	CCTCCAGGAC	CCCCCCTCCCC	GGGAGAGCCA	TAGIGGICIG	150
CGGAACCGGT	GAGTACACCG	GAATTGCCAG	CACCACCGC	TOCTTTCTTG	200
GATCAACCCG	CTCAATGCCT	<b>GGAGATTTGG</b>	COCICOCOCC	GCCACACTGC	250
TAGCCGAGTA	GIGITGGGIC	GCGAAAGGCC	TIGIGGIACT	CCCTGATAGG	300
GTGCTTGCGA	GIGCCCCCGGG	AGGICTOGIA	CACCGIGCAC	CATGAGCACG	350
AATCCTAAAC	CTCAAAGAAA	AACCAAACGT	AACAOCAACC	GCCCCCACA	400
GGACGICAAG	TTCCCGGGGG	GIGGICAGAT	CCTTCCTCCA	GITTACCIGT	450
TGCCGCGCAG	GGGCCCCAGG	TIGGGIGIGC	GCGCCACTAG	GAAGGCTTCC	500
GAGCGGTCGC	AACCICGIGG	AAGGCGACAA	CCTATCCCAA	AGGCTCGCCG	550
ACCCGAGGGC	AGGGCCTGGG	CTCAGCCCGG	GTACCCTTGG	CCCCICIAIG	600
<b>GCAATGAGGG</b>	CCTGGGGTGG	GCAGGATGGC	TOCTGTCACC	CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC	650
CGGCCTAGIT	GGGGCCCCAC	GGACCCCCGG	CGTAGGTCGC	GTAACTTGGG	700
			CCCCCATCIC		750
TTCCCCTCGT	CGGCGCCCCC	CTAGGGGGGG	CIGCCAGGGC	CTTGGCACAC	- 800
GETGTCCGGG	TICTOGAGGA	CGGCGTGAAC	TATGCAACAG	GGAACTIGCC	.850
CCCTTCCTCT	TICICIAICT	TCCTCTTGGC	TCTGCTGTCC	TGTTTGACCA	900
TCCCAGCTTC	CCCTTATGAA	GTGCGCAACG	TGTCCCGGGAT	ATACCATGIC	950
ACGAACGACT	GCTCCAACTC	AAGCATIGIG	TATGAGGCAG	CCCACCICAT	1000
CATGCATACT	CCCGGGIGCG	TECCCIGIGI	TCAGGAGGGT	AACAGCTCCC	1050
GITGCTGGGT	AGCGCTCACT	CCCACGCICG	CCCCACCAA	TGCCAGCGTC	1100
CCCACTACGA	CAATACGACG	CCACGICGAC	TICCICCITG	GGACGGCTGC	1150
TTTCTCCTCC	GCTATGTACG	TGGGGGATCT	CIGCGGAICT	ATTITICCICG	1200
TCTCCCAGCT	GITCACCTIC	TCGCCTCGCC	_GGCATGAGAC	AGTGCAGGAC	1250
TGCAACTGCT	CAATCTATCC	CGGCCATGIA	TCAGGICACC	GCATGGCTTG	1300
<b>GGATATGATG</b>	ATGAACIGGT	CACCIACAAC	AGCCCTAGIG	GIGICGCAGI	1350
TECTCCEGAT	CCCACAAGCT	GICGIGGACA	TGGTGGCGGG	GGCCCACIGG	1400
GGAGTCCTGG	CGGGCCIIGC	CIACIATICC	ATGGTAGGGA	ACIGGGCIAA	1450
GGITCIGATT	GTGGCGCTAC	TCTTTGCCGG	CGTTGACGGG	GAGACCCACA	1500
CGACGGGGAG	CCICCCCCCC	CACACCACCT	CCGGGTTCAC	GICCCITIIC	1550
TCATCTGGGG	CGICICAGAA	AATCCAGCTT	GIGAATACCA	ACGGCAGCIG	1600
GCACATCAAC	AGGACTGCCC	TAAATTGCAA	TGACTCCCTC	CAAACIGGGI	1650
TCTTTGCCGC	GCTGTTTTAC	GCACACAAGI	TCAACTOGIC	CGGGIGCCCG	1700 1750
GAGCGCATGG	CCAGCTGCCG	CCCCATTGAC	TOGTTOGCCC	AGGGGTGGGG	1750 1800
CCCCATCACC	TATACTAAGC	CTAACAGCTC	GGATCAGAGG	CCTTATTGCT	1800 1850
GGCATTACGC	GCCTCGACCG	TGTGGTGTCC	TACCCGCGIC	CAGGIGIGI	
<b>GGTCCAGTGT</b>	ATTGTTTCAC	CCCAAGCCCI	GIIGIGGIGG	GGACCACCGA	1900

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10	20	30	40	50	
		1234567890			
		ATAGCIGGG			1950
		CCCCCACAAG			2000
		CACTAAGACG			2050
		GCACCTIGAT			2100
		TACACAAAAT			2150
		CTACCCATAC			2200
		TTAAGGTTAG			2250
		TGCAATTGGA			2300
		AGAACTCAGC			2350
AGAGIGGCAG	ATACTGCCCT	GIGCTITCAC	CACCTACCG	GCTTTATCCA	2400
		CAGAACATOG			2450
		CTCCTTTGCA			2500
		CAGACGOGGG			2550
		GCTGAGGCCG			2600
•		CCCACCCAT			2650
		ACATTAAGGG			2700
		TEGECCECTEC			2750
		GCACCCGGCAG			2800
		TATICTIGAC			2850
		TOGTOGTTAC			2900
		GC1CCCCCCCC			2950
		CCICICCCCI			3000
		GCCATACTCG			3050
		GIACITOGIG			3100
TGCATGCATG	TTAGTGCGAA	AAGTCGCCGG	GGGTCATTAT	GFCCAAATGG	3150
TCTTCATGAA	GCTGGGCGCG	CTGACAGGTA	CGIACGITIA	TAACCATCIT	3200
ACCCCACTGC	GGGACTGGGC	CCACGCGGGC	CTACCAGACC	TIGOGGIGGC	3250
				ATCACCTGGG	3300
		GGGGACATCA			3350
				GICICGAAGG	3400
				CAACAAACGC	3450
				GCACAAGAAC	3500
				AATCTTTCCT	3550
				GCCCIGCCI	3600
				GIACACCAAT	3650
-				COCCCTCCAT	3700
				ACCACACATG	3750
CIGATGICAT	TCCGGIGCGC	CCGCCGAGGCCG	ACAGCAGGGG	AAGICTACIC	3800

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10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TCCCCCAGGC	COGICICCIA	CCTGAAAGGC	TOCTOGGGTG	GICCATIGCT	3850
TICCCTICG	GGGCACGICG	TEGGGGTCIT	CCCCCCTCCT	GIGIGCACCC	3900
GGGGGGIGGC	GAAGGCGGTG	GACTICATAC	COGITGAGIC	TATGGAAACT	3950
ACCATGOGGT	CTCCGGTCTT	CACAGACAAC	TCAACCCCC	CCCCTCTACC	4000
GCAGACATTC	CAAGTGGCAC	ATCTGCACGC	TOCTACTOGC	ACCCCCAAGA	4050
GCACCAAAGT	GCCGGCTGCG	TATGCAGCCC	AAGGGTACAA	GGIGCICGIC	4100
CTGAACCCGT	CCCTTCCCCC	CACCTTAGGG	TTTGGGGGGT	ATATGTOCAA	4150
GGCACACGGT	ATCGACCCTA	ACATCAGAAC	TGGGGTAAGG	ACCATTACCA	<b>- 4200</b>
CGGGGGGCTC	CATTACGTAC	TCCACCTATG	GCAAGITOCT	TCCCCACCGT	4250
GCTGTTCTG	GGGGGCCTA	TGACATCATA	ATATGIGATG	AGIGOCACIC	4300
AACTGACTCG	ACTACCATCT	TGGGCATCGG	CACAGICCIG	CACCAACCCC	4350
AGACGGCTGG	AGCGCGGCTC	GICGICCICG	CCACCCTAC	ACCTOCCGGA	4400
TOGGTTACOG	TGCCACACCC	CAATATCGAG	CAAATAGGCC	TGTCCAACAA	4450
TOGAGAGATC	CCCTTCTATG	GCAAAGCCAT	CCCCATTGAG	GCCATCAAGG	4500
GGGGGAGGCA	TCTCATTTTC	TGCCATTCCA	AGAAGAAATG	TCACCACCIC	4550
GCCGCAAAGC	TGACAGGCCT	CCCACTCAAC	GCIGIAGCAT	ATTACCEGGG	4600
CCTTGATGTG	TCCGTCATAC	CCCTATCCC	AGACGICGIT	GICGIGGCAA	4650
CAGACGCTCT	AATGACGGGT	TTCACCGGGG	ATTTTGACTC	AGIGATOGAC	4700
TGCAATACAT					4750
CACCATTGAG					4800
CCCCACCTAC	AACTGGCAGG	CCTACCACTC	GCATCTACAG	GITIGIGACI	4850
CCAGGAGAAC	GGCCCTCGGG	CATGITCGAT	TCTTCCGTCC	TGIGIGAGIG	4900
CTATGACGCG	GCTGTGCTT	GGIAIGAGCT	CACGCCCGCT	GAGACCTOGG	4950
TTAGGTTGCG	GGCTTACCTA	AATACACCAG	GTTGCCCGT	CIGCCAGGAC	5000
CATCTGGAGT	TCTGGGAGAG	CGICTICACA	GGCCICACCC	ACATAGATCC	5050
CCACTTCCTG	TCCCAGACTA	AACAGGCAGG	AGACAACIIT	CCTTACCTCG	5100
TGGCATATCA			•		5150
TGGGACCAAA					5200
GCCAACACCC		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			5250
TCACACACCC		-			5300
GAGGTOGTCA	•				5350
GGCCGCATAC					5400
TCTIGICCGG					5450
GAGITOGATG .					5500
CCCAATCCAG					5550
AAACGGCCAC	•				5600
TGGCGAGCCC					5650
CGGAATACAG	TACCTAGCAG	GCTTATCCAC	TCTGCCTGGA	AACCCCCGCGA	5700

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			·		
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1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
TACCATCATT	CATCCCATTT	ACAGCITCIA	TCACTAGOOC	CCTCACCACC	5750
CAAAACACOC	TOCTGTTTAA	CATCTTGGGG	<b>GCATGGGTGG</b>	CIGCCCAACT	5800
CCTCCTCCC	AGOGCTGOGT	CAGCITICGT	GGGGGGGGC	ATCCCCCCAC	5850
COCCIGITOG	CAGCATAGGC	CITGGGAAGG	TGCTCGTGGA	CATCITGGCG	5900
GGCTATGGGG	CAGGGGTAGC	CCCCCACTC	GIGGCCITIA	AGGICATGAG	5950
CCCCCACCIG	CCTCCACCG	AGGACCIGGI	CAACTTACTC	CCTGCCATCC	6000
TCTCTCCTCG	TECCCTEGIC	GIOGGGGICG	TGTGCGCAGC	AATACTGCGT	6050
CCCCACCICG	GCCCGGGAGA	GGGGGCTGTG	CAGTGGATGA	ACCEGCTGAT	6100
AGOGTTOGCT	TOGOGGGIA	ACCACGICIC	COCTACGCAC	TATGIGCCIG	6150
AGAGOGAOGC	TOCACCACCT	GICACICAGA	TOCTOTOTAG	CCTTACCATC	6200
ACTCAACTGC	TCAAGCCGCT	CCACCAGIGG	ATTAATGAGG	ACTGCTCTAC	6250
GCCATGCTCC	GCTCGTGCC	TAAGGGATGT	TIGGGATIGG	ATATGCACGG	6300
TGTTGACTGA	CITCAAGACC	TOGCTCCAGT	CCAAACTCCT	GCCGCGTTA	6350
CCCGGGAGTCC	CTTTCCTGTC	ATGCCAACGC	GGGTACAAGG	CACTCTCCCC	6400
GGGGGACGGC	ATCATGCAAA	CCACCTGCCC	ATGCGGAGCA	CAGATOGCCG	6450
GACATGTCAA	AAACGGITCC	ATGAGGATCG	TAGGGCCTAG	AACCTGCAGC	6500
AACACGIGGC	ACGGAACGIT	CCCCATCAAC	GCATACACCA	CCCCACCTTG	6550
CACACCCTCC	CCCGCCCCA	ACTATICCAG	GCCCTATCG	CCCCTCCCTC	6600
CIGAGGAGIA	CGTGGAGGTT	ACCCCTCTCC	GGGATTTCCA	CTACCTGACG	6650
GGCATGACCA	CIGACAACGI	AAAGTGCCCA	TOCCAGGITC	A2CCCCCED	6700
ATTCTTCACG	GAGGIGGAIG	CACTCCCCTT	GCACAGGTAC	CCICCGGCGI	6750
GCAAACCTCT	TCTACGGGAG	GACCICACCI	TCCAGGICGG	GCTCAACCAA	6800
TACITEGICG	GGTCGCAGCT	CCCATGCGAG	CCCGAACCGG	ACGIAACAGI	6850
GCTTACTTCC	ATGCTCACCG	ATCCCTCCCA	CATTACAGCA	GAGACGGCTA	6900
AGCGTAGGCT	GGCTAGAGGG	TCTCCCCCCT	CITIAGOCAG	CICATCAGCT	6950
AGCCAGITGT	CIGCGCCIIC	TITGAAGGCG	ACATGCACTA	COCACCATGA	7000
CTCCCCCGGAC	CCTCACCTCA	TOGAGGCCAA	CCICITGICG	CCCCACCACA	7050
TGGGCGGAAA	CATCACTOGC	GIGGAGICAG	AGAATAAGGT	AGIAATICIG	7100
GACTCTTTCG	AACCGCTTCA	CCCCCAACCCCC	GATGAGAGGG	AGATATCCGT	7150
CCCCCCCCAC	ATCCTGCGAA	AATCCAGGAA	GITCCCCTCA	GOGITGOOCA	7200
TATEGGCACG	CCCGGACTAC	AATCCTCCAC	TOCTAGAGIC	CTGGAAGGAC	7250
CCGGACTACG	TCCCTCCGGT	GGTACACGGA	TGCCCATTGC	CACCTACCAA	7300
GGCTCCTCCA	ATACCACCTC	CACGGAGAAA	GACCACCGIT	GTCCTGACAG	7350
AATCCAATGT	GICITCIGCC	TTGGCGGAGC	TOGCCACTAA	CACCTICCGT	7400
AGCTCCGGAT	CGTCGGCCGT	TGATAGCGGC	ACGGCGACCG	CCCTTCCTGA	7450
CCIGGCCICC	GACGACGGIG	ACAAAGGATC	CCACGITICAG	TCGTACTCCT	7500
CCATGCCCCC	CCTTGAAGGG	GAGCCGGGGG	ACCCCGATCT	CAGCGACGGG	7550
TCTTGGTCTA	CCGTGAGTGA	GGAGGCTAGT	GAGGATGTCG	TCTGCTGCTC	7600

10	20	30	40	50	
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		CCCCCCTCAT			7650
		COGTTGAGCA			7700
		ATCCCCCAGC			7750
		AAGTOCTGGA			7800
TCAAGGAGAT	CAAGGCGAAG	GOGTOCACAG	TITAAGGCIAA	CCTTCTATCT	7850
ATACACCACC	CCTGCAAGCT	GACGCCCCA	CATTOGGCCA	AATCCAAATT	7900
		TOOGGAACCT			7950
ACATOOGCTC	<b>CETETIOSEAG</b>	CACTTCCTCC	AAGACACTGA	AACACCAATT	<u>\$</u> 000
		AAGIGAGGTT			8050
		GCCTTATCGT			8100
GIGIATGCGA	CAACATCCCC	CITTACGACG	TEGICICCAC	CCTTCCTCAG	8150
GCCGTGATGG	<b>GCTCCTCATA</b>	CCCATTICAA	TACTOCCCA	AGCAGCGGGT	8200
CGAGITCCIG	GIGAATACCT	<b>GCAAATCAAA</b>	GAAAIGCCCT	ATGGGCTTCT	8250
CATATGACAC	CCCCTGTTTT	GACTCAACGG	TCACTGAGAG	TCACATTOGT	8300
		ATGITGIGAC			8350
		AGCGGCTTTA			8400
ACTCAAAAGG	GCAGAACTGC	<b>GGTTATCGCC</b>	GCIGCOGGC	AAGIGGGGIG	8450
CIGACGACIA	<b>GCTGCGGTAA</b>	TACCCTCACA	TGITACITGA	AGGCCACTGC	8500
		TCCAGGACTG			8550
				GGATGCGGCG	
				CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC	8650
		ACGACCTGGA			8700
		GATGCATCTG			8750
		CCTTCCACCG			8800
		GGCTAGGCAA			8850
		CIGATGACIC			8900
GCTCAAGAGC	AACTTGAAAA	AGCCCTGGAT	TGICAGATCT	ACGGGGCTTG	8950
CTACTCCATT	GAGCCACTTG	ACCTACCTCA	GATCATIGAA	CCACTCCATG	9000
GICTTAGCGC	ATTIACACIC	CACAGITACT	CICCAGGIGA	CATCAATAGG	9050
GTGGCTTCAT	GCCTCAGGAA	ACTIGGGGIA	CCACCCTTGC	GAACCIGGAG	9100
ACATCGGGCC	AGAAGIGICC	GCGCTAAGCT	ACTGTCCCAG	GGGGGAGGG	9150
CCGCCACTIG	TGGCAGATAC	CICTITAACT	GGGCAGTAAG	GACCAAGCIT	9200
AAACTCACTC	CAATCCCGGC	CCCCTCCCAG	CIEGACITEI	CIGGCIGGIT	9250
CCTCCCTCCT	TACACCGGGG	GAGACATATA	TCACAGCCIG	TCTCCTCCCC	9300
GACCCCCCTG	GTTTCCGTTG	TOCCTACTOC	TACTTICIGI	AGGGGTAGGC	9350
ATTTACCTGC	TCCCCAACCG	ATGAACGGGG	AGCIAACCAC	TCCAGGCCTT	9400
AAGCCATTIC	CIGITITIT	TTTTTTTTT	TTTTTTTT	TCTTTTTTT	9450
TTTCTTTCCT	TICCTICITY	TTTTCCTTC	TITTICCCIT	CITTAATGGT	9500

10	20	. 30	40	50	
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GGCTCCATCT	TAGCCCTAGT	CACGGCTAGC	TGTGAAAGGT	CCCTICACCCC	9550
CATGACTGCA	CACACTCCTC	ATACTGGCCT	CICIGCAGAT	CATGT	9595

		<del></del>			
10			40	50	
<u>1234567890</u>	<u> 1234567890</u>	1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	
			VOGVYLLPRR		50
KASERSOPRG	RRQPIPKARR	PEGRAWAQPG	YPWPLYGNEG	LGWAGWLLSP	100
RGSRPSWGPT	DPRRRSRNLG	KVIDILICGF	ADIMGYIPLV	<b>GAPLOGAARA</b>	150
LAHGVRVLED	GVNYATGVLP	<b>GCSFSIFLLA</b>	LLSCLTTPAS	AYEVRIVISGI	200
YHVINDOSNS	SIVYEAADVI	MHTPGCVPCV	<b>QEGNSSROW</b>	ALIPILAARN	250
ASVPITTIRR	HVDLLVGIAA	FCSAMYVGDL	CGSIFLVSQL	FIFSPRRHET	300
VQDCNCSTYP	GHVSGHRMAW	DMMWSPTT	ALVVSQLLRI	PQAVVIMVAG	350
AHWGVLAGLA	YYSMVQVWAK	VLIVALLFAG	VDGEIHITGR	VACHITISCET	400
SLFSSGASOK	IQLVNINGSW	HINRIALNON	DSLQIGFFAA	LFYAHKFNSS	450
GCPERMASCR	PIDWFAQGWG	PITYTKPNSS	DQRPYCWHYA	PRPOGVVPAS	500
QVCGPVYCFT	PSPVVVGTTD	RSGVPTYSWG	ENEIDAMLIN	NIRPPOGNAF	550
<b>GCTWMNSTGF</b>	TKTCGGPPCN	IGGVGVRILI	CPIDCFRKHP	EATYTKOGSG	600
PWLTPRCLVD	YPYRLWHYPC	TLNFSIFKVR	MYVOGVEHRL	NAACNWIRGE	650
			TLPALSIGLI		700
			VCACLWMILL		750
LVVLNAASVA	GAHGILSFLV	FFCAAWYIKG	RLAPGAAYAF	YGVWPLLLLL	800
			LSPYYKVFLT		850
TRAEAHMOW					900
VLQAGITRVP					950
NHLTPLRDWA					1000
PVSARRCKEI					1050
DKNQVEGEVQ '	VVSTATQSFL .	AICINGVOWI '	VYHGAGSKIL .	AGPKGPITQM	1100
YINVDLDLVG					1150
SLLSPRPVSY 1					1200
METTMRSPVF '					1250
VLVLNPSVAA ?					1300
ADGGCSGGAY I					1350
PPGSVIVPHP 1					1400
DELAAKLIGL (					1450
ATDOMICAID J	IVDFSLDPIF 1	TETTIVPQD A	AVSRSQRRGR :	TCRCRSGIYR	1500
FVTPGERPSG N					1550
CQDHLEFWES \	FIGLIHIDA H	HELSQIKQAG I	NFPYLVAYQ A	ATVCARAQAP	1600
PPSWDQMWKC I	IRLKPILHG I	PIPLLYRLGA 1	QNEVILIHP :	MYMACMS	1650
ADLEVVISIW (					1700
LYQEFDEMEE C					1750
ESKWRALETF W					1800
LTTQNILLEN I	LGGWVAAQL A	APPSAASAFV C	AGIAGAAVG S	SIGLGKVLVD	1850
ILAGYGAGVA C	ALVAFKVMS C	EVPSTEDLV N	ILPAILSPG ?	ATYACAY	1900

10	20	30	40	50	
1234567890	1234567890	1234567890	<u>1234567890</u>	1234567890	
TT RRHVGPGE	CAVOMMRLI	<b>AFASRGNHVS</b>	PIHYVPESDA	AARVIQILSS	1950
LTTTOLLKRL	HOWINEDCST	PCSGSWLRDV	<b>WDWICIVLID</b>	FKIWLQSKLL	2000
PRLPGVPFLS	<b>CORGYKGWR</b>	<b>GDGIMQITCP</b>	CCAQIACHVK	NGSMRIVGPR	2050
TOSNIWHGIF	PINAYTIGPC	TPSPAPNYSR	ALWRVAAEEY	VEVIRVGDFH	2100
VVICMITIDAV	KCPCQVPAPE	FFTEVDGVRL	HRYAPACKPL	LREDVIFQVG	2150
INOYLVGSOL	PCEPEPDVIV	LISMLIDPSH	TTAETAKRRL	ARGSPPSLAS	2200
SSASOLSAPS	LKATCITHID	SPDADLIEAN	LLWROEMGGN	TIRVESENKV	2250
VILDSFEPLH	AFGDEREISV	AAETLRKSRK	<b>FPSALPIWAR</b>	PDYNPPLLES	2300
WKDPDYVPPV	VHGCPLPPIK	APPIPPPRRK	RIVVLIESW	SSALAFLATK	2350
TFGSSGSSAV	DSGIATALPD	LASDDGDKGS	DVESYSSMPP	LEGEPGDPDL -	2400
SDGSWSTVSE	FASEDVVCCS	MSYIWIGALI	TPCAAEESKL	PINPLSNSLL	2450
RHHMWYATT	SRSASLRQKK	VIFDRLQVLD	DHYRDVLKEM	KAKASTVKAK	2500
LLSTEEACKL	TPPHSAKSKF	GYGAKDVRNL	SSRAVNHIRS	WEDLLEDIE	2550
TPIDITIMAK	SEVFCVQPEK	GGRKPARLIV	FPDLGVRVCE	KMALYDVVST	2600
LPQAVMGSSY	<b>GFQYSPKQRV</b>	EFLVNIWKSK	KCPMGFSYDI	RCFDSIVIES	2650
DIRVEESIYQ	CCDLAPEARQ	AIRSLITERLY	IGGPLINSKG	QVCGYRRCRA	2700
				VICESAGIQE	2750
DAAALRAFIE	<b>AMIRYSAPPG</b>	DPPQPEYDLE	LITSCSSWS	VAHDASGKRV	2800
	LARAAWETAR				2850
				FILHSYSPGE	2900
				GRYLFINIAVR	2950
TKLKLTPIPA	ASQLDLSGWF	VAGYSGGDIY	HSLSRARPRW	FPLCLLLLSV.	3000
GVGIYLLPNR					3010

#### SEQUENCE LISTING

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<213> GBV-B virus

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- Arg Pro Arg Asn Tyr Lys Ile Ala Gly Ile His Asp Gly Leu Gln Thr 50 55 60
- Leu Ala Gln Ala Ala Leu Pro Ala His Gly Trp Gly Arg Gln Asp Pro 65 70 75 80
- Arg His Lys Ser Arg Asn Leu Gly Ile Leu Leu Asp Tyr Pro Leu Gly
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- Asp Gly Val Asn Trp Ala Thr Gly Trp Phe Gly Val His Leu Phe Val 130 135 140
- Val Cys Leu Leu Ser Leu Ala Cys Pro Cys Ser Gly Ala Arg Val Thr 145 150 155 160
- Asp Pro Asp Thr Asn Thr Thr Ile Leu Thr Asn Cys Cys Gln Arg Asn 165 170 175
- Gln Val Ile Tyr Cys Ser Pro Ser Thr Cys Leu His Glu Pro Gly Cys
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- Val Ile Cys Ala Asp Glu Cys Trp Val Pro Ala Asn Pro Tyr Ile Ser 195 200 205
- His Pro Ser Asn Trp Thr Gly Thr Asp Ser Phe Leu Ala Asp His Ile 210 215 220
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- Glu Leu Cys Gly Ala Cys Val Leu Val Gly Asp Trp Leu Val Arg His 245 250 255

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- Trp His Asn Gly Ser Ala Leu Lys Leu Ala Ile Leu Gln Tyr Pro Gly
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- Asp Val Lys Asp Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu Ile Thr Lys Asp Lys Ala Trp 545 550 555 560
- Lys Asn Tyr Gln Val Leu Tyr Ser Ala Thr Gly Ala Leu Ser Leu Thr 565 570 575
- Gly Val Thr Thr Lys Ala Val Val Leu Ile Leu Leu Gly Leu Cys Gly 580 585 590
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- Gly His Arg Ile Ala Leu Leu Val Gly Pro Trp Pro Leu Val Ala Leu 705 710 715 720
- Leu Thr Leu Leu His Leu Val Thr Pro Ala Ser Ala Phe Asp Thr Glu
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- Ser Arg Phe Gly Phe Phe Ala His Leu Leu Pro Arg Cys Ala Leu Val 755 760 765

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- Leu Arg Pro Glu Arg Phe Phe Leu Val Leu Val Cys Phe Pro Gly Ala
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- Thr Tyr Asp Ala Leu Val Thr Phe Cys Val Cys His Val Ala Leu Leu 805 810 815
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- Ser His Tyr Val Leu Lys Phe Phe Leu Leu Val Phe Gly Glu Asn Gly
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- Val Phe Phe Tyr Lys His Leu His Gly Asp Val Leu Pro Asn Asp Phe 865 870 875 880
- Ala Ser Lys Leu Pro Leu Gln Glu Pro Phe Phe Pro Phe Glu Gly Lys 885 890 895
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- Leu Gln Cys Leu Ser Glu Arg Gly Thr Leu Ser Ala Met Ala Val Val 945 950 955 960
- Met Thr Gly Ile Asp Pro Arg Thr Trp Thr Gly Thr Ile Phe Arg Leu 965 970 975
- Gly Ser Leu Ala Thr Ser Tyr Met Gly Phe Val Cys Asp Asn Val Leu 980 985 990
- Tyr Thr Ala His His Gly Ser Lys Gly Arg Arg Leu Ala His Pro Thr
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- Gly Ser Ile His Pro Ile Thr Val Asp Ala Ala Asn Asp Gln Asp Ile 1010 1015 1020

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- Ser Cys Val Phe Ala Phe Ile Ala Gly Ile Thr Thr Pro Leu Pro His

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- Phe Ile Ala Thr Arg Asp Ile Arg Arg Lys Ile Leu Gly Ile Leu Glu 1825 1830 1835 1840
- Ala Ser Thr Pro Trp Ser Val Ile Ser Ala Cys Ile Arg Trp Leu His 1845 1850 1855
- Thr Pro Thr Glu Asp Asp Cys Gly Leu Ile Ala Trp Gly Leu Glu Ile 1860 1865 1870
- Trp Gln Tyr Val Cys Asn Phe Phe Val Ile Cys Phe Asn Val Leu Lys
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- Ala Gly Val Gln Ser Met Val Asn Ile Pro Gly Cys Pro Phe Tyr Ser 1890 1895 1900
- Cys Gln Lys Gly Tyr Lys Gly Pro Trp Ile Gly Ser Gly Met Leu Gln 1905 1910 1915 1920
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- Phe Ala Lys Leu Tyr Lys Gly Pro Arg Thr Cys Ser Asn Tyr Trp Arg
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- Gly Ala Val Pro Val Asn Ala Arg Leu Cys Gly Ser Ala Arg Pro Asp 1955 1960 1965
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- Cys Lys Tyr Glu Lys Met Gly Asp His Ile Phe Val Thr Ala Val Ser 1985 1990 1995 2000
- Ser Pro Asn Val Cys Phe Thr Gln Val Pro Pro Thr Leu Arg Ala Ala 2005 2010 2015
- Val Ala Val Asp Gly Val Gln Val Gln Cys Tyr Leu Gly Glu Pro Lys 2020 2025 2030
- Thr Pro Trp Thr Thr Ser Ala Cys Cys Tyr Gly Pro Asp Gly Lys Gly
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- Tyr His Lys Gln Val Arg Leu Ala Lys Glu Lys Ala Ser Lys Val Val
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- Tyr Gly Gln Val Ala Pro Asp Val Val Lys Ala Val Met Gly Asp Ala 2450 2455 2460
- Tyr Gly Phe Val Asp Pro Arg Thr Arg Val Lys Arg Leu Leu Ser Met 2465 2470 2475 2480
- Trp Ser Pro Asp Ala Val Gly Ala Thr Cys Asp Thr Val Cys Phe Asp 2485 2490 2495
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- Arg Ala Trp Arg Lys Lys Ala Arg Ala Val Leu Ala Ser Ala Lys Arg 2770 2775 2780
- Arg Gly Gly Ala His Ala Lys Leu Ala Arg Phe Leu Leu Trp His Ala 2785 2790 2795 2800
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<213> Hepatitis C virus

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Lys Gly Trp Ser Leu Leu Ala Pro Ile Thr Ala Tyr Ala Gln Gln Thr 1025 1030 1035 1040

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	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national class	theation and IPC	
B. FIELDS	SEARCHED  cumentation searched (classification system followed by classific	eation symbols)	
IPC 7	C12N C07K	audi symoosi	
Documentati	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent th	at such documents are included in the fields sea	irched
Electronic da	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data	base and, where practical, search terms used)	
EPO-In	ternal, BIOSIS, MEDLINE		
C. DOCUM	ENT'S CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the	relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 95 21922 A (PILOT MATIAS TAN SHERI L (US); SIMONS JOHN N (US)	AI J ;BUIJK 5); ABBOT)	1,2,4-18
	17 August 1995 (1995-08-17) page 4, line 18 -page 6, line 19 page 55, line 24 -page 56, line 19 page 76; example 5 page 89, line 18 -page 96 page 109; example 15 page 148; example 21 page 427, line 17 -page 432	17 e 19	
	claims	-/	
X Fur	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed	in annex.
Soecial ca	ategories of cited documents :		
*A* docum consi *E* earlier	tent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international	"T" later document published after the inte or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or th invention "X" document of particular relevance; the or	the application but eory underlying the taimed invention
which citation "O" docum	oate ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another on or other special reason (as specified) nent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means	earnot be considered novel or cannol involve an inventive step when the do  "Y" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an in document is combined with one or ments, such combination being obvio	curnent is taken alone daimed invention ventive step when the ore other such docu-
*P* docum	nent published prior to the international filing date but than the priority date claimed	in the art. "&" document member of the same patent	lamily
	e actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international se	arch report
	mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer	
	European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 Nt 2280 HV Riijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Andres, S	

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A	SCARSELLI ELISA ET AL: "GB virus B and hepatitis C virus NS3 serine proteases share substrate specificity." JOURNAL OF VIROLOGY, vol. 71, no. 7, July 1997 (1997-07), pages 4985-4989, XP002150190 ISSN: 0022-538X cited in the application the whole document  HONDA MASAO ET AL: "A phylogenetically conserved stem-loop structure at the 5' border of the internal ribosome entry site of hepatitis C virus is required for cap-independent viral translation." JOURNAL OF VIROLOGY, vol. 73, no. 2, February 1999 (1999-02), pages 1165-1174, XP002150191 ISSN: 0022-538X	19,24-26
A	hepatitis C virus NS3 serine proteases share substrate specificity." JOURNAL OF VIROLOGY, vol. 71, no. 7, July 1997 (1997-07), pages 4985-4989, XP002150190 ISSN: 0022-538X cited in the application the whole document  HONDA MASAO ET AL: "A phylogenetically conserved stem-loop structure at the 5' border of the internal ribosome entry site of hepatitis C virus is required for cap-independent viral translation." JOURNAL OF VIROLOGY, vol. 73, no. 2, February 1999 (1999-02), pages 1165-1174, XP002150191 ISSN: 0022-538X	
	conserved stem-loop structure at the 5' border of the internal ribosome entry site of hepatitis C virus is required for cap-independent viral translation." JOURNAL OF VIROLOGY, vol. 73, no. 2, February 1999 (1999-02), pages 1165-1174, XP002150191 ISSN: 0022-538X	19,22,23
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